

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE No. 1778, January 15, 1981]

ESTABLISHING THE DON MARIANO MARCOS MEMORIAL STATE UNIVERSITY BY MERGING THE DON MARIANO MARCOS MEMORIAL STATE COLLEGE; THE SOUTHERN ILOCOS POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE, THE LA UNION SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES AND THE LA UNION COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND LIKEWISE INTEGRATING THE SAPILANG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INTO THE STATE UNIVERSITY: PROVIDING A CHAPTER FOR THIS PURPOSE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF.

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Philippines directs the State to establish and maintain a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the goals of national development and further prescribes that all educational institutions shall aim to develop scientific, technological, and vocational efficiency;

WHEREAS, under Presidential Decree No. 6-A, also known as the Educational Decree of 1972, promulgated on September 20, 1972, it has been declared a policy of the government to re-orient the educational system to be relevant to an accelerated national economic growth and meaningful social development;

WHEREAS, by merging some institutions the utilization or limited resources in higher education program can be coordinated and maximized, and may result in a more effective and rapid development of the manpower resources in the province of La Union in particular, and of the region in general; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the state university in the province of La Union will provide more opportunities in professional and technical training in the arts, sciences, humanities and technology, and in the conduct of scientific research and technological studies, and would not only give change to the students from low-income families, but will eventually also draw students who otherwise would flock to Manila, thereby lessening social problems in the city;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree:

SECTION 1. The Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University is hereby established by merging the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State College at Bacnotan, La Union; the Southern Ilocos Polytechnic State College at Agoo, La Union; and the La Union School of Arts and Trades and La Union Community College, both at San Fernando, La Union. The Sapilang Elementary School located inside the campus of the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State College is likewise integrated into the State University, hereinafter referred to as the University.

SEC. 2. The present faculty and all other personnel of the Institutions merged in this Decree are hereby transferred to the University.

SEC. 3. The general administration of all assets, fixed and movable, records and properties of the merged institutions shall be transferred to the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University.

SEC. 4. The University shall provide advanced instruction in the arts, agriculture, fishery, engineering and natural sciences, as well as in other technological and professional fields; promote research, and engage in extension work.

SEC. 5. The governing board of the University shall be a Board of Regents hereinafter referred to as a Board, to be composed of the Minister of Education and Culture as Chairman, the President of the University as Vice-Chairman, and the Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority and four (4) prominent citizens who have distinguished themselves in their respective professions or fields of specialization to be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon recommendation of the Minister of Education and Culture, as Members. In the absence of the Minister of Education and Culture, he may designate his representative to sit in the meetings of the Board.

Of the four (4) appointed regents, one shall serve for two years; one for three years; and two for four years. Thereafter, the appointees shall hold office for a term of four years. In case of permanent vacancy, the appointee shall hold office for the unexpired term only.

SEC. 6. A majority of all members of the Board of Regents holding office at the time of a meeting shall constitute a quorum, provided the Minister of Education and Culture, or his duly appointed representative shall be considered in determining a quorum. All processes against the University shall be served on the President of the University or his duly authorized representative.

SEC. 7. The members of the Board of Regents shall not receive compensation but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses, on a commutable basis, incurred either in attendance of meetings of the Board or of other official business authorized by it.

SEC. 8. The Board of Regents shall have the following powers and duties in addition to its general powers of administration and the exercise of all the powers of a corporation as provided in Batas Pambansa Blg. 68 otherwise known as the Corporation Code of the Philippines:

(a) To prescribe rules for its own government and to enact for the government of the University such rules and regulations not contrary to law, as are consistent with the purpose and function of the University;

(b) To receive and appropriate such funds as may be provided for the support of the University;

(c) To import duty-free commodities for educational purposes as an exemption to existing laws as well as to receive in trust legacies, gifts, and donation of all kinds and to administer and the same for the benefit of the University, or any department thereof, in accordance with the instructions of the donor not contrary to law; and in default thereof, in such manner as the Board of Regents may in its discretion determine. All such donations shall be exempt from all taxes and shall be considered as deductible items from the income tax of the donors;

(d) To approve the curricula and rules of discipline drawn by the Academic Council as hereinafter provided.

(e) To confer degrees upon successful candidates for graduation, to confer honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of intellect, public service, statesmanship or